

ABSTRACT

A ventricular apex connector for quick connection and disconnection of an inflow tube of a ventricular assist device, comprising a sewing ring, a cylindrical ring, gripping pins, a spring ring and a sealing O-ring is provided. The cylindrical ring defines two openings, diametrically opposed to each other, in its walls. Gripping pins, comprising rods with gripping pads, are placed in the openings in the cylindrical ring so that the gripping pads are at rest within the inner circumference of the cylindrical ring. The spring ring is placed around the cylindrical ring and the rods of the gripping pads, which extend out of the outer wall of the cylindrical ring, are welded to the spring ring. The gripping pins are thus biased towards each other by the force of the spring ring. When the spring ring is squeezed, at points away from the gripping pin connection points, the deformation of the spring ring causes the gripping pads to be pulled out towards the inner wall of the cylindrical ring. An inflow tube of a heart pump may then be inserted into the ventricular apex connector, and upon the release of the spring ring, the inflow tube is sealedly held within the ventricle of the heart. In an embodiment an adapter sleeve may be attached to the inflow tube. In a further embodiment, the inflow tube may include an inner sleeve that is slidably and rotatably mounted therein. The inflow tube may have a bend at an end.